

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00531 280950Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2415
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0531

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, EIND, MILI, TW
SUBJECT: AIR ASIA COMPANY, LTD.

1. A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF AIR ASIA COMPANY, LTD., WHICH IS OWNED BY E-SYSTEMS, INC. OF DALLAS, TEXAS, RECENTLY CALLED ON ECON COUN TO INFORM HIM OF ACTIVITIES OF THIS TAIWAN-BASED COMPANY WHICH IS ENGAGED IN REPAIR AND MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT AND RELATED EQUIPMENT. E-SYSTEMS PURCHASED THE FACILITY FROM AIR AMERICA IN 1974.

2. ACCORDING TO COMPANY OFFICIAL, AIR ASIA HISTORICALLY HAS DEPENDED FOR LARGE PART OF ITS BUSINESS ON SERVICING U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT OR AIRCRAFT UNDER CONTRACT TO U.S. MILITARY.
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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 00531 280950Z

WITH CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES IN VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA, MUCH THIS BUSINESS CEASED AND AIR ASIA WAS FORCED TO REDUCE STAFF CONSIDERABLY IN 1975 AND EARLY PART OF 1976.

3. WITHIN PAST YEAR COMPANY'S BUSINESS HAS IMPROVED TO POINT THAT UNEMPLOYMENT HAS REACHED PRE-1975 LEVEL AND ADDITIONAL

SKILLED WORKERS ARE BEING HIRED. WORK FOR U.S. MILITARY HAS INCREASED AND SOME ROC MILITARY AIRCRAFT ARE NOW BEING SERVICED. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THAILAND AIR FORCE RECENTLY VISITED COMPANY TO LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF HAVING TAF C-123'S SERVICED AND A CONTRACT PROBABLY WILL BE NEGOTIATED SOON. DISCUSSIONS ALSO HAVE BEEN HELD WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF AIR FORCES OF SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA. PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE IS PREPARED TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR MAINTENANCE OF ITS TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT BUT ROC MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS NOT YET GIVEN ITS APPROVAL. COMPANY OFFICIAL ALSO STATED THAT ENGINES FROM NEPAL AIR FORCE ARE BEING OVERHAULED. BECAUSE OF POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES, ENGINES ARE CONSIGNED TO AIR ASIA AGENT IN HONG KONG.

4. AIR ASIA IS ALSO ENDEAVORING TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION FROM JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO SERVICE TWIN-ENGINE PRIVATE AIRCRAFT OF JAPANESE REGISTRY. COMPANY BELIEVES THAT IN LONG RUN THIS COULD BE MAJOR SOURCE OF INCOME SINCE AIR ASIA HAS BEST EQUIPPED AND STAFFED FACILITY IN ASIA FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF ALL TYPES OF AIRCRAFT.
UNGER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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